

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION

612 Cotton Exchange Building Food Distribution Administration
Phone Magnolia 2713

New Orleans, Louisiana.
Tuesday, June 29, 1943.

TRUCK CROP NEWS FROM FIELD STATISTICIANS' REPORTS.
Released Washington, D. C. -- June 21, 1943.

GENERAL:

Conditions affecting the development of commercial truck crops were for the most part more favorable the first half of June than in May, and most crops made good progress during the period. In many northern sections, however, growers have been unable to cultivate crops properly and weeds are causing considerable trouble.

The harvesting season for early crops in the South and West is drawing rapidly to a close, and the large consuming centers are receiving an increasing proportion of fresh vegetables from less distant sections, which will furnish the bulk of supplies during the summer months.

In the West, conditions for the most part were good, although relatively cool weather in most sections retarded plant growth to some extent.

CABBAGE:

The Tennessee cabbage deal is about finished. Colorado cabbage prospects are very good. The small early acreage in the canon City area is making fine growth and harvest will start about June 15 with several straight cars moving from this deal around July 1.

CANTALOUPS:

In California, Imperial Valley shipments will be at their peak this week. Harvest is well along on the paper-covered acreage, and most of the late fields are in production. San Joaquin Valley cantaloups have made good progress during June. Acreage in the Kern County area is very light. A few days of warm weather will bring on the crop quite rapidly and it is quite possible that there will be a small movement out of this area toward the end of the month. In the Mendota-Firebaugh District, indications point to a few of the early fields being available for harvest around June 10. Light carlot shipments may be expected at that time, but full volume will not be available on the west side until late July or the first of August.

In Arizona, cool weather during recent weeks has retarded maturity of cantaloups at Yuma and Phoenix and has increased the size, thereby increasing the yield per acre. Shipments from Yuma have increased gradually since June 1, and it now appears the peak movement from Yuma will be reached about June 20. Some cantaloups may be harvested at Phoenix by June 25, and volume movement from Phoenix is expected shortly after July 1.

CARROTS:

Most California districts are harvesting carrots. There is considerable variation in quality, both in the tops and roots, between the various districts. Arizona, has been restricted somewhat by market conditions. Supplies at both Phoenix and Yuma are plentiful. It is expected that many of the carrots now available will be shipped with tops removed.

CELERY:

Harvest in the Venice, California district of Los Angeles County should decline during the latter part of the month. It is expected that local markets will soon be able to absorb the available supplies. First supplies of Oregon celery appeared on the Portland market during the second week of June. Carlot movement will get under way from the Late Labish area in another week or 10 days. In Michigan, movement of celery from the Kalamazoo area will start about June 17, with light movement for the rest of this month. The movement from Grand Haven and Muskegon is expected to start about June 22-25 and will be light until the second week in July.

CUCUMBERS:

In southwestern Arkansas, commercial cucumber harvest is now under way. The peak will be reached the first part of July.

LETTUCE:

Harvest in the California Central Coastal district is now down to the usual low levels of mid-June. Toward the end of the month there will be a slight increase in the acreage available for cutting but heavy volume is not expected again before mid-July. Harvesting of the early plantings in the Denver-Brighton, Colorado area is well under way. Shipments from the heavy acreage in the San Luis Valley should start about July 10, reaching heavy volume the third week of the month. Lettuce from the acreage in the Routt County area of Northwest Colorado will be on the market about August 1.

ONIONS:

The California, San Joaquin Valley is in its peak of harvest in most of the onion producing districts. Quality is generally good and the crop is making fair yields. The Willa Walla, Washington carlot onion deal will start between June 25 and July 1, and will build to a peak around July 15. Probably 20 cars could be shipped daily, with a total of 450 cars available. Late acreage in Yakima and Benton Counties is reduced from a year ago. Late variety onions in the Panhandle district that will not come into production until September and October are in splendid condition. The Georgia onion season ended about June 15, with the exception of a small scattered late acreage in southwest Georgia. In New Jersey stands around Cedarville and Glassboro are good. Practically no harvesting is expected before July 1. In Great Meadows, excessive rains have made weeds a serious problem, especially for the seeded part of the acreage. The New York crop has been badly handicapped all season. All sections have had too much moisture ranging from enough in Orange County to delay the field work to so much in Madison, Oswego, Genesee, and Orleans Counties, that many of the onions have been badly flooded so far this season. Some fields have a good color and are making good growth but yellowing of the tops has appeared in many fields, especially in the low spots. A large amount of replanting has been necessary and in many fields in Western and Central New York, the weeds have been uncontrolled, with the result that the crops in these fields are being plowed under.

POTATOES:

The peak of the Arkansas potato harvest in the southern commercial area has been reached. In central areas the harvest is about to begin and the peak will be reached about July 1. In the Franklin County, Tennessee area drought conditions were experienced during the first part of June. Recent rains, however, should improve condition of the crop. Harvesting may be delayed for a few days, but digging should be under way generally during the week of June 21.

In Virginia, prospects are unusually good in the Norfolk Section, the lower Eastern Shore and the western shore. By June 15 lack of moisture was beginning to affect the crop in most of Accomac County in the upper half of the Eastern Shore. Rain is badly needed right away to prevent rapid deterioration in crop prospects in this county. A light movement was started from the lower Eastern Shore the week of June 14 and in the Norfolk Section a few growers had started digging. There will be a considerable increase in volume from the lower Eastern Shores the week of June 21, as well as some movement from Nansemond and Norfolk Counties in the Norfolk section. Digging in southern Accomac County on the Eastern Shore will start the week of June 21. There will be but few potatoes dug in Princess Anne County in the Norfolk section until the week of June 28. The peak movement for Eastern Virginia is expected the weeks of June 28 and July 5. In Kansas, prospects for the commercial early potato crop have declined materially since June 1. Heavy rains have fallen, and practically all of the commercial potatoes in the Kaw Valley are planted on low land subject to flooding or level areas where water from unusually heavy rains may stand for two or three days. Considerable acreage has been lost and further loss may be expected. Growers expected to start digging about June 28, but wet fields may delay this some. No new potatoes from this area have been marketed.

TOMATOES:

The acreage in the San Joaquin Valley is just coming into production, and during the next two weeks will furnish the bulk of the loadings for the local Coast markets. Carlot shipments have started out of the Morehead area and this movement is expected to increase during the latter part of June. The important east Texas area experienced two interruptions after harvest started; rains occurred the last of May and in early June. In spite of the generous rains a few scattered areas still need moisture. Prospective production for the area is favorable and the quality of the first picking was above average. Present conditions point to continued good quality. Crops in the

OVER.

TOMATOES CONT'D: later districts -- Avery section -- are in good condition, but production is not expected to be available until about June 20-25. The Yokum crop is finished.

In Louisiana tomatoes have not yielded up to expectations and shipments likely will not extend beyond about June 25. In Arkansas shipments of "green wrap" tomatoes from the Monticello Ridge area began on June 14 and increased steadily this week. Weather the past week, reduced yields generally. Unless rainfall is received the harvest will be cut far short of earlier expectations and the peak will be reached June 21 or 22. Size and quality have been unusually good to date. Setting of plants in the northwestern area was about completed by June 15. The Tennessee tomato crop looks fair at this time. Good growth was made during the first half of June but many patches were set back by overflow from heavy rains in May. Some worm damage is being noted. Shipments will begin June 21 which is about the average date. Peak shipments should occur the week of July 4.

WATERMELONS: In all Texas sections, a good crop is in prospect. Ample moisture and favorable growing conditions practically assure above-average yields. All early areas have reached active harvesting operations and good melons are available; only a few solid earlots have moved, but truck shipments are unusually active. A few fields in the early districts have been harvested, but supplies from these districts may continue until the early part of July compared with the usual end of harvest the latter part of June. Prospective production in the mid-season districts is a little earlier than usual. Light supplies are expected from central Texas districts about June 20-25 and east Texas districts expect production in good volume the early part of July. The acreage for the State is drastically reduced, but good yields are in prospects in all sections.

In Louisiana, watermelons are expected to start moving early in July with peak shipments the third week of the month. In the southern Mississippi counties, the marketing season for watermelons is expected to start the first week of July. The crop needs rain in most areas. Acreage was reduced about 25 percent this year. The Alabama crop is beginning to ripen and shipments will soon be under way from the Grand Bay area in south Alabama. Plants have been progressing nicely but will need additional rain soon for normal development. Other scattered sections in the southern part of the State will ship the last week in June. In Georgia, watermelons from acreage near the shipping points of Valdosta, Quitman, Pavo, Adel, Cario, Canilla, and Statesboro will be loaded June 15-25; from Dublin, McRea, Fitzgerald, and Cordelle July 1-4; and Oglethorpe, Macon and Butler July 5-10.



Released 10:00 A.M. EEM/ac

War Food Administration
Food Distribution Administration
612 Cotton Exchange Building
New Orleans 12, La.

Penalty for private use to avoid
payment of postage \$ 300.00

Official Business

APRIL2013



HUAJI H.3201